



This is a digital copy of a book that was preserved for generations on library shelves before it was carefully scanned by Google as part of a project to make the world's books discoverable online.

It has survived long enough for the copyright to expire and the book to enter the public domain. A public domain book is one that was never subject to copyright or whose legal copyright term has expired. Whether a book is in the public domain may vary country to country. Public domain books are our gateways to the past, representing a wealth of history, culture and knowledge that's often difficult to discover.

Marks, notations and other marginalia present in the original volume will appear in this file - a reminder of this book's long journey from the publisher to a library and finally to you.

Usage guidelines

Google is proud to partner with libraries to digitize public domain materials and make them widely accessible. Public domain books belong to the public and we are merely their custodians. Nevertheless, this work is expensive, so in order to keep providing this resource, we have taken steps to prevent abuse by commercial parties, including placing technical restrictions on automated querying.

We also ask that you:

- + *Make non-commercial use of the files* We designed Google Book Search for use by individuals, and we request that you use these files for personal, non-commercial purposes.
- + *Refrain from automated querying* Do not send automated queries of any sort to Google's system: If you are conducting research on machine translation, optical character recognition or other areas where access to a large amount of text is helpful, please contact us. We encourage the use of public domain materials for these purposes and may be able to help.
- + *Maintain attribution* The Google "watermark" you see on each file is essential for informing people about this project and helping them find additional materials through Google Book Search. Please do not remove it.
- + *Keep it legal* Whatever your use, remember that you are responsible for ensuring that what you are doing is legal. Do not assume that just because we believe a book is in the public domain for users in the United States, that the work is also in the public domain for users in other countries. Whether a book is still in copyright varies from country to country, and we can't offer guidance on whether any specific use of any specific book is allowed. Please do not assume that a book's appearance in Google Book Search means it can be used in any manner anywhere in the world. Copyright infringement liability can be quite severe.

About Google Book Search

Google's mission is to organize the world's information and to make it universally accessible and useful. Google Book Search helps readers discover the world's books while helping authors and publishers reach new audiences. You can search through the full text of this book on the web at <http://books.google.com/>

14453

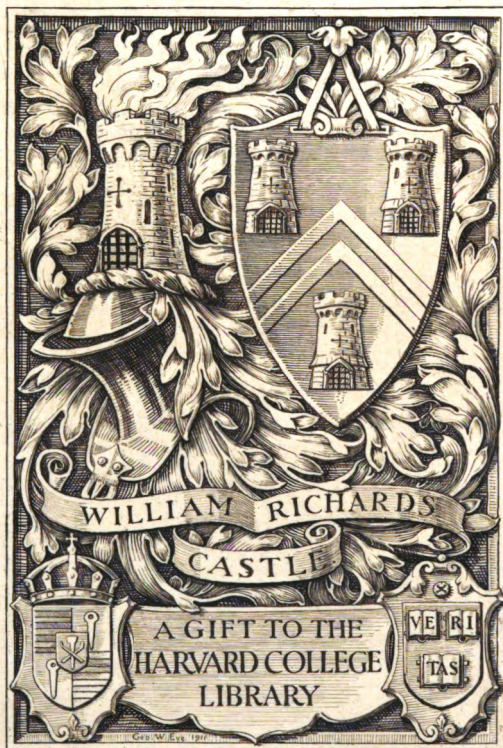
33. 40

PHOTOSTAT FACSIMILE

REPRODUCED FROM THE COPY IN THE

HENRY E. HUNTINGTON LIBRARY

REFERENCE ONLY. NOT FOR REPRODUCTION



THE
HONOR OF THE
L A W E.

Written by Thomas
Churchyard Gent..



Imprinted at London, by
*Ar. Hatfield, for William
Holme.*

1596.

To the right honorable sir *Thomas Egerton* knight, Lord keeper
of the great seale, and one of the *Queenes Maiesties* priuy counsell,
Thomas Churchyard wisheth long life, continuance
of vertue and iustice, with everlasting
credit and good fame.




He gladnes good men did show (right honorable) when God & our gracious Prince placed the great seale in your hands, called vp my muse that seldom sleepeeth, to awaken the world with some verses, that vertuous men may consider of. They are but the inuention of time, practise of pen, siffurance of old custom, and the boldnes of a writer, that often salutes men of great worth with bookes and blessednes, in the first entrie of their worldly honor. This spoken to your L. as one to whom the Lord of Lords (as I know) hath giuen great graces, not onely to iudge well of good mens causes, (which prolongs life) but likewise to answer the hope that great and good personages haue in your L. And so being called to greatnes (a fortune not common) great matter is expected, and in iustice the full effect of your greatnes shall be seene (I doubt not) bicause the chosen and annointed of the Lord hath chosen you (among a multitude) to sit in the charitable seat of iudgement, where pity is a pleader, patience a hearer, mildnes a looker on, and mercy is a iudge. Now the good report of the world (which I heare) besides the good disposition in your owne mind are presently come to make a prooffe and daily triall of your vertues: so leauing your Lordship to the goodnes and grace of the almighty, I humbly craue good acceptation of my simple plaine verses, (that I call the Honor of the Law) written in a franke motion of the good will I haue alwaies borne towards your honorable good fortunes.

Castle fund



The honor of the Law.

THe law where iudge is plaest in princely seat,
Cam first from God (who would reform mans mis)
And well maintaind, with skill and wisdom great,
And honord much, long lovde and feared is,
Grace spreds the bowes, & goodnes brings forth frute,
Time ripens all, and hales the haruest on,
Law thresheth corne, and helps each poore mans sute,
To sow new seed, ere all old graine be gon:
But Iustice rules, (by order) all the cawes,
And is of right, the honor of the lawes.



Prowd, rich or poore, to Iustice are alike,
No parshall eie, it hath but cleerly sees,
Where to defend, to fauor, kill or strike,
And lookes into the state of all degrees,
With loue and law, is Iustice ioined still,
The one keepes right, as hen doth clock hir broode,
The other gains the heat of warm goodwill,
Which is the cream, and milk of Christian foode:
Iustice wins that, and like a Lady stands,
VVith equall weights, and ballance in hir hands.


A 2

VVhat



The honor of the Law.

VVhat bears no poize, like feathers flies away,
VVhat keepeth weight, and stamp doth currant pas,
VVhat must be helpt' with grains and doth decay,
Is clipt too neere, or neither gold nor glas,
The currant coin, that iustice doth allow,
Is cald iust law, true dealing and good mind,
A stamp that may, in any world go throw,
And with both friends, and foes may fauor find:
Thus Iustice doth both law and lawyers gide,
Sees who aimes right, and who shoots short or wide.




Marks pleaders well (that lengthens suites with words)
Lookes far in land, and can true titles sift,
Sounds deepest seas, and wades throw shallow foords,
And hates those heads, that with great finenes shift,
VVealth, praise and peace, are Iustice handmaids all,
Honor and fame, holds vp milde Iustice traine,
Truth on each side, supports hir from a fall:
And heaunly hope, in hart the doth retain:
Disdains delay, giues aid and helpe in haste,
Cuts off the snuffe, before the candle waste.

VVhen



The honor of the Law.

When futes do hang, ten yeeres on tenter hookes,
They stretch too far, and so gro full of holes:
VVhen few words make great scrouls & mighty books
Ill newes is brought to many silly soles.
VVhen cunning casts, a cloke on open wrong,
Right is put back, and knoes not where to go,
VVhen troth is lapt, in great dispute too long,
An vpright cause may get an ouerthro:
Light is seen streight, from darknes if we please,
And quarrels may be ended soon with ease.




Though Mine and Thine, makes many brabbles still,
In small short time, each man may haue his own,
Though thousands run to law on froward will,
Of each mans cause, the troth is quickly known,
Though doubts arise, in matters of great weight,
Good men may soon, decide a doubtfull cace,
But if weake things, like wax we stretch an height,
Or on bad stuffe, do clap an honest face:
A straw may seem, as strong to many a one,
As is a staffe, that lame men stay vpon.

Gay



The honor of the Law.

Gay collors hides, a patched rotten wall,
Faire fained tales, conuaies foule things from sight,
Sweet suger takes, the taste from bitter gall,
VVrong richly clad, to blindnes seemeth right,
Troth troden downe, lifts falschood vp aloft,
False dice do run, as smoothe as truest bones,
Fine filed toongs, deceiues plaine people oft,
Fondlings may take, pure glasse for preshous stones:
A trim discourse, set out for goodly shoes,
May quickly mar, the text with glorious gloes.



Plaine words are brought, from plow & country plain,
To finde plaine deedes, a friend to plainnes cace,
In open court, then plainnes doth complain
Of wrong receiud, before true Iustice face,
The pleading there, begins, but hath no end,
A yeere or twaine, runs on with reasons great,
Both parties so, much time and wealth doth spend,
VVhiles lawyar stalk at barr in cold and heat:
The matter oft, scarce woorth a lock of hey,
Begun of nought, doth breed an endlesse pley.

VVhy



The honor of the Law.

VVhy bright brode day at any hole is seen,
Darke night is known, when stars in skie do shoote,
Both black and white are quickly gest from green,
The head or hand is easily found from foot,
The good and bad as great a diffrence haue,
As chalke and cheese. Then is there no great doubt,
Tween right and wrong, small pleading do they craue,
For Iustice doom, soon finds their natures out:
So is the court dismist of suters all,
And mildly sits the Iudges in the hall.



Long sutes are like a semstars clue of threed,
That first was long a spinning of the wheele,
Long twisting too, to make it serue the need,
Long winding vp on thrifty huswiues reele,
And ouer long a working some men say,
Yet as the length is long of this same clue,
So shall you finde an end som kind of way,
To serue the turne in time and season due:
But sutes do leaue the sutars all so bare,
That halfe vndon world thinks long sutes are.

The



The honor of the Law

The honor of the law leaues long delaies,
A quick dispatch works many men much good,
VVhen good turns are turnd off to yeers and daies,
They bring disease, and breedeth no good blood,
VVhat falls out well is welcom at the furst,
VVhat hapneth ill must needs be known at last,
And when a man in time doth know the wurst,
The care is gon, and halfe the harms are past,
Admit that lands and goods do lie therein,
Looke what is lost we haue no hope to win.



Plainnes is best, and euer furthest goes,
Sleight finds a shift, to shuffell cards too long,
The shortest way, vnto the wood who knoes,
And goes about, shall do himselfe great wrong.
No honor more, than get good will of men,
VVith iudgement sweet, a true-loue knot to knit,
To further that my praier and my pen,
Shall wait vpon the seat wherein you sit.
And poore mens plaints, when salued is their fore,
Eternize shall your name for euer more.

F I N I S.

This book should be returned to the Library on or before the last date stamped below.

A fine of five cents a day is incurred by retaining it beyond the specified time.

THE BORROWER WILL BE CHARGED AN OVERDUE FEE IF THIS BOOK IS NOT RETURNED TO THE LIBRARY ON OR BEFORE THE LAST DATE STAMPED BELOW. NON-RECEIPT OF OVERDUE NOTICES DOES NOT EXEMPT THE BORROWER FROM OVERDUE FEES.





3 2044 090 286 329